



Questions?

Office on Violence Against Women
**Administrators'
Corner**



*Great
Ideas?*

S*T*O*P Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program

August, 2005

OVW STOP Unit Newsletter

Greetings STOP Administrators!

While it has only been three months since we last spoke, so much has been going on! As always, if there is something you would like included or addressed, feel free to contact your Program Specialist. (And yes, we are still considering the request from the unnamed administrator to have her pet's picture included in the next newsletter.)

Awards

Everyone should have received their awards at this point. If for some reason you have not, please let your Program Specialist know as soon as possible. Otherwise, please sign, date and return the award documents.

Reports Update

OVW is pleased to announce that the new Annual Progress Report for the STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program (STOP Program) and the Annual STOP Administrators Report are now available on-line. Therefore, the deadline for submitting both the STOP Administrator report and all STOP subgrantee reports covering the reporting period of January through December, 2004 (which was originally March 31, 2005) is now extended to October 11, 2005. Thank you so much for your patience with this new reporting system!

Additional OVW Programs

Can you quickly name the other 11 grant programs administered by OVW? For those of you who need a little help, attached is an up-to-date list of all of OVW's programs. Please pass the information along to your subgrantees.

STOP Administrators' Meeting

It seems like it was just yesterday when we were all gathered in sunny San Antonio. Well, it is that time again! The 4th annual STOP Administrator's Meeting is going to be held September 9th -11th, 2005 in Chicago at the Ritz Carlton. (The meeting is mandatory for all STOP Administrators.) STOP TA recently sent out registration information. If you did not receive the email, please call Nicole Vonderhaar at STOP TA, 800-256-5883 ext 2.

Additionally, for those of you who were not aware, the National Resource Sharing Project (RSP) will be hosting its National Meeting in Chicago at the same time that the STOP Administrators' meeting will be held. RSP will be holding a joint reception with STOP TA to bring together coalition staff and STOP grant administrators. The reception will be held Monday, September 12, 2005 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm at the Ritz Carlton Hotel. Director Diane Stuart will be speaking at the reception and look forward to seeing those of you who can join us.

*Questions? Ask them.... Ideas? Share them! * Ideas? Share them....Questions? Ask them!
Services*Training*Officers*Prosecutors*

QUARTERLY FEATURES

Questions of the month

Q: Can STOP funds be used for shelter renovations?

A: No, STOP monies cannot be used for renovations.

Q: Help! I made my awards according to the statutory allocations (25/25/30/5) but the court has returned their monies. Will I be out of compliance if the funds are not spent? Can I reprogram the funds?

A: No, you will not be out of compliance, as the statute mandates only that the allocation is made. If, for reasons out of your control, the funds are not spent, you will not be penalized (as long as you can show that the allocation was made), and the funds may be reprogrammed within the courts area. For further information, please contact your Program Specialist.

Reminder of the month

As stated earlier, the STOP awards were recently made. Please read the award documents carefully, as some of you may have a special condition related to your implementation plan. This means that until your implementation plan is approved, you will not be able to draw down your funds. It is suggested that you address this requirement and get the plan to your Program Specialist as soon as possible have the special condition lifted, even if you do not plan to draw down from the award any time soon. This will prevent delays later when you actually need access to your funds.

SPOTLight

STOP Administrator: Jim Whittle-Alabama

Retired from the U.S. Army after 30 years, Jim Whittle has been with the state of Alabama since May 3, 1993, serving in a variety of positions, most recently as the Program Manager for the State of Alabama's Violence Against Women Act Program (April 2002 until present). Unfortunately for us, Jim is set to retire September 1, 2005. (He will still be joining us at the STOP Administrators' meeting.) Married to Juanita Whittle for 33 years, Jim has a stepson, Larry and a stepdaughter, Pat. Jim plans to stay involved with VAWA activities after his retirement.

VAWA Related Quote from Jim: "Always put the victim or subgrantee first and ensure they get the proper assistance. If you don't know the answer, tell them you will find out and get back with them immediately. STAY UP TO DATE ON YOUR JOB AT ALL TIMES, AND TRY TO LEARN SOMETHING NEW EVERYDAY."

TA Provider: STOP TA

A component of The Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV), STOP TA has been providing comprehensive technical assistance STOP Formula Grant Administrators in the 56 states and territories for the past decade.

While STOP TA provides technical assistance through a variety of activities and services, of particular note is the on-site technical assistance, as it is an opportunity for Administrators or subgrantees to request targeted, specific TA on issues related to effective implementation of the goals of the STOP Grant Program. STOP TA will provide up to two and a half days of intense training with expert consultants and STOP TA staff to address the issues presented. For

information on all available technical assistance, please contact STOP TA at 800-256-5883, ext 2.

Miscellaneous News

New Staff Hired for OVW's STOP Unit

We would like to introduce you to a new member of the STOP Unit: Melissa Schmisek.

Melissa, our new Program Specialist, hails from "The Land of 10,000 Lakes" (Minnesota for those of you not from the Midwest.) Before joining OVW, she served as Program Coordinator for the Office on Women Sexual Assault Response and Awareness (SARA) Program in the City of Alexandria, Virginia. She will be managing the Midwest states. Her phone number is (202) 305-1271.

Campus Merger

For those of you who were not aware, the STOP Unit, which also manages the State Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalitions Program, recently merged with the Grants to Reduce Violent Crimes Against Women on Campus Program Unit. This means that we add an additional Program Specialist, Myrta Charles, and a new program to the unit.

Message From Diane Stuart



Dear Colleagues:

I want to express a heartfelt thanks to all of you who sent well wishes my way while I was recovering from breast cancer. I am happy to report that I received a clean bill of health from the doctors and am now cancer-free. Knowing that I work with such caring and compassionate

colleagues made the entire process more bearable. Thank you again!

At OVW we are as busy as ever. On July 19, I testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee on the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act. The Department of Justice fully supports reauthorization of this most important legislation. A copy of my testimony is available on the OVW Web site at www.ojp.usdoj.gov/vawo.

In addition to the excitement of VAWA III, I am proud to tell you that two family justice centers under the President's Family Justice Center Initiative have opened in Brooklyn, NY, and in San Antonio, TX. At the press conferences announcing their openings, I had the privilege of reading a personal congratulatory letter from President Bush and presented a special commemorative plaque from OVW. Several more centers will be opening in the coming months. Keep an eye on the OVW Web site for more family justice center news and photos from the events!

I am very excited to see all of you in Chicago in September. As always, thank you for your extraordinary work and commitment to ending violence against women.

Diane M. Stuart
Director

**Attachment: VAWA Fact Sheet*

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